



The 43d Adjutant General Battalion (Reception) Welcomes You to the Army!



We are proud of your decision to serve your country. You are now a Soldier, part of the best organization in the world: the U.S. Army. You will depart the St. Louis International Airport by bus for a 2 to 3-hour ride to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. You will arrive at the 43d AG Battalion (Reception). The Battalion processes Initial Entry Training (IET) Soldiers for assignment to units at Fort Leonard Wood for Basic and One Station Unit Training. The Battalion also processes Prior Service Soldiers for worldwide assignments.

Try to get as much sleep on the bus as you can. Once you arrive at Fort Leonard Wood, a Drill Sergeant will greet you. You will be treated with professionalism, dignity and respect. What you may have seen in the movies, such as harassment and hazing of brand new arrivals, is NOT the way you will be treated. You, in turn, must respect your Army superiors and pay attention to them. They are here to help ease your transition into the Army.

Your Civilian Transportation Coordinator will arrive at _____. Upon their arrival, you are allowed to use the USO facilities, eat, use the phones and latrines. Authorized eating areas that accept meal vouchers are *Great American Bagel Company*, lower level mezzanine; *Burger King*, upper level mezzanine; and *Rib Café*, upper level mezzanine. After your Transportation briefing, you will know your bus number and departure time. Write them below:

Bus number

Departure time

The next few days will be busy! Your first night will include a short introduction, a chance to get rid of unauthorized items, and the opportunity to eat a snack. You will then march to the barracks, where you will receive a bunk, a locker and an opportunity to get some rest. If you need a lock for your wall locker, you will be given the opportunity to purchase one in the morning. Be prepared for an early morning wake up by your Drill Sergeant and Processing Sergeants.

Processing Schedule

DAY 1: You'll start the day with a wake-up and personal hygiene time. Males will shave every morning. You'll then march to breakfast and start processing at Grant Hall. You will get your Stored Value Card (an Army debit card) with a \$250 limit for males and \$300 for females. Females receive extra money because they have to purchase extra items at our mini Post Exchange. Male Soldiers will get their first military haircut. Females will have blood drawn for pregnancy testing and males will receive their immunizations. You will then get your uniforms. Your company commander and Personal Affairs Branch (PAB) will give you briefings. Be sure to be completely honest during this time. You will be briefed about the GI Bill, and see Prevention of Sexual harassment, Equal Opportunity and Uniform Code of Military Justice videotapes, and will go to the mini Post Exchange and use your Stored Value Card to buy necessary items for training. Your Drill Sergeant will give you the most current shopping list from our training units. Follow it carefully: the generic list you might have received from your recruiter is NOT always accurate. You will also get lunch and dinner during the day. After dinner, you will be marched back to the barracks for some training in bunk making, cleaning, the Army push-up and other necessary duties. After everything is completed, you will be given personal time to write or call home and get ready for the next day. Following lights out, get some sleep! You've had a busy day and have at least three more days to follow. You will be given sufficient time in the morning, after wake-up, to do personal hygiene. Getting up earlier will only deprive you of needed rest.

DAY 2: You will again march everywhere you go and receive 3 meals just like Day 1. You will process through screenings at Optometry (eyesight) and Dental (teeth). Selected Soldiers will be given the Defense Language Aptitude Battery (DLAB) test and/or go to the Personnel Security Screening Program (PSSP) Detachment for briefings. You will process through the Bank or Credit Union (only for those Soldiers who arrive without a bank card, checks or Direct Deposit form). You'll then go to the Personal Affairs Branch where you will review your contract, confirm your marital status, get an ID card, set up allotments, and have a chance to buy savings bonds. During this time there is a lot of 'hurry up and wait'. Use the Initial Entry Training (IET) handbook (Smart Book) and study Chapters 1 through 4. These contain the most important things you must know for Basic Training during the first day. Again you will march back to the barracks after dinner and get additional training. Listen to the lessons that the Drill Sergeants give—they will pay big dividends at Basic. Remember, all our Drill Sergeants were once assigned to Basic Training units, and they want you to

Prohibited Items

The following items will be turned over upon arrival at the 43d AG Battalion (Reception):

- Firearms
- Blackjacks
- Switchblade knives
- Knives with blades over 2 1/2 inches
- Tear gas guns
- Bullets
- Firecrackers
- Brass knuckles
- Slingshots
- Hand chains
- Martial arts weapons
- Straight razors
- Darts
- Steel hair picks
- Aspirin
- Vitamins
- Prescription and over-the-counter drugs
- Drug paraphernalia (roach clips, coke spoons, cigarette papers, water pipes, etc.)
- Alcoholic beverages
- Counterfeit plates or counterfeit money
- Obscene, pornographic, or suggestive material
- Gambling devices, including playing cards and dice
- Food, candy, and tobacco products
- Items containing alcohol
- Scented lotions/sprays
- Perfume/cologne

DAY 3: You'll start the day with a wake-up and personal hygiene time. You'll march to breakfast, and finish all processing at Grant Hall. Sometime during the day you will be given the Fitness Training Company (FTC) assessment to determine if you are physically ready to meet the challenges of Basic Training. Later you will have your graduation photo taken and be given the opportunity to purchase photo packages.

DAY 4: You'll start the day with a wake-up and personal hygiene time and then march to breakfast. Today will consist of hearing conservation, testing and make-up of any processing you might have missed. You will return to the barracks area to get organized for your shipment to training tomorrow. After dinner, you will attend Victory Session or Troop Talk with your training command.

SHIP DAY: You will turn in linen and get the area ready for your departure. Later, at the shipping formation, you will be transferred to your Basic Training/OSUT unit, where you will meet your Drill Sergeants. They will assist and guide you through your basic training at Fort Leonard Wood. This day can be a time of anxiety for some. But don't worry—25,000 people do it every year in this Battalion alone and you will do fine. Just remember all the lessons that the Drill Sergeants taught you during your first few days.

ADDITIONAL DAYS: Sometimes, if your processing cycle falls on a weekend, you will be required to stay a few extra days with the battalion. This allows for extra training before Basic Training. Use this extra time to get some good training, do some more studying, and rest. You'll need it when you get to Basic Training.

Physical Security

Remember to secure your belongings at all times. Locks can be purchased at the mini Post Exchange. Use your lock to keep others out of your wall locker. Do not leave your wallet or high dollar value items unattended. You are financially responsible for the uniforms you will be issued. If you lose any items due to your own negligence, you will have to replace them. Be security conscious at all times. You must ensure you aren't taking unnecessary risks.

Dealing with Stress

Joining the Army may be a stressful time and even be a little frightening. To help you, remember the following thoughts:

- 25,000 other Soldiers do this each year here and so can YOU!
- Remember to work as a team. The U.S. Army is the best team in the world and you are now a part of that team.
- Listen to your leaders—they are here to help you.
- Remember to treat others as they should be treated. Acting professionally is the mark of a good Soldier. Your Drill Sergeants will teach you about addressing non-commissioned officers (NCOs) and officers.
- Use your free time at night to call home and let everyone know you are OK. Tell your family and friends the truth—don't exaggerate.
- There are lots of horror stories from others who went through basic training years ago. Much of this is BO-GUS information! This is your Army experience and we are here to help you.
- You will receive an IET Soldier handbook (Smart Book), study and know it.
- If you feel frustrated, count to ten and take a breath—before you say something you might regret.
- If you have a problem, raise it! Problems never get better with age. See a professional like your Drill Sergeant, the First Sergeant, the Company Commander, or the Chaplain. We are here to help!
- Laughing is great medicine. Don't lose your sense of humor.

Army Values

Loyalty: Bear true faith and allegiance to the U.S. Constitution, the Army, your unit, and other Soldiers.

Duty: Fulfill your obligations.

Respect: Treat people as they should be treated.

Selfless Service: Put the welfare of the nation, the Army, and your subordinates before your own.

Honor: Live up to all the Army values.

Integrity: Do what's right, legally and morally.

Personal Courage: Face fear, danger, or adversity (physical or moral).